Promotion of sports in U.P.

1909. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds granted to Uttar Pradesh for promotion and development of sports activities during 2001-2002 and 2002-2003; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to ensure proper utilization of funds granted for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) Under the scheme of Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure, Central assistance of Rs. 32.58 lakhs and Rs. 16.29 lakhs was released to the Government of Uttar Pradesh during 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 (as on 29.7.2002).

(b) To ensure proper utilization of funds, approved Central assistance is released in suitable instalments. While the first instalment is released after the State Government/Grantee institution has spent atleast 50% of their share, further instalments are considered for release on receipt of Utilization Certificate, Progress Report, audited accounts and photographs of the project being constructed.

Popularising games among youths

1910. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified some games, which can be promoted and developed for popularizing amongst the youths;

(b) if so, what are the games so identified;

(c) what are the salient features of such plans; and

(d) if answer to part (a) above be in negative, whether Government would consider doing so?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (d) No particular game has as such been identified by the Government which can be promoted and developed for popularizing

amongst the youth. However, in order to prioritize sports disciplines for special focus and work out a differential pattern of assistance based on their status and performance, various sports disciplines have been identified in the following three categories:

(i) Priority Category

(ii) General Category

(iii) Other Category,

However, Govt. of India through various promotional schemes of Sports Authority of India augments the efforts of the State Government in promotion of sports at sub-junior, junior and senior levels. For promotion of sports, children in the age group of 8—14 years are identified and admitted in the National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC) scheme and also Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC) scheme. Talented juniors in the age group of 14—21 years are admitted in SAI Training Centres and Special Area Games Centres of Sports Authority of India.

Encouraging women sports-persons

1911. SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM:
SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the schemes formulated and available, to promote and encourage women sports-persons;

(b) how much funds have been allocated, per year;

(c) what are Governmental and Non-Governmental agencies involved in implementation of such schemes; and

(d) how many women sports-persons have been benefited so far, from these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) Government of India is implementing the following two schemes to specifically promote and encourage women sports persons: